

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to place the application in better condition for examination. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the forgoing amendments be made prior to examination on the merits.

Original claims 1-12 were canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Of new claims 13-25, which have been added without adding new matter, new method claims 13-19 correspond to original method claims 1-7 and new apparatus claims 20-25 correspond to original apparatus claims 8-12.

CONCLUSION

For the aforementioned reasons, 13-25 are respectfully presented for consideration on the merits. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if such communication would expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 2, 2004

By Richard C. Peet

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
3000 K Street, N.W.
Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20007
Telephone: (202) 672-5300
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Richard C. Peet
Registration No. 35,792

Frederic T. Tenney
Registration No. 47,131

Attorneys for Applicants

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED REGARDING THIS APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT, TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 19-0741. SHOULD NO PROPER PAYMENT BE ENCLOSED HERewith, AS BY A CHECK BEING IN THE WRONG AMOUNT, UNSIGNED, POST-DATED, OTHERWISE IMPROPER OR INFORMAL OR EVEN ENTIRELY MISSING, THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE THE UNPAID AMOUNT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 19-0741. IF ANY EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE NEEDED FOR TIMELY ACCEPTANCE OF PAPERS SUBMITTED HERewith, APPLICANT HEREBY PETITIONS FOR SUCH EXTENSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 AND AUTHORIZES PAYMENT OF ANY SUCH EXTENSIONS FEES TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 19-0741.